## **CLAIMS**

1. A method for detecting a signal burst transmitted on the initiative of a sender on a radio channel listened to by a receiver system, the transmitted burst representing a predetermined digital sequence, in which method channel parameters representing a statistical behavior of the radio channel are estimated and a detection magnitude is evaluated on the basis of the estimated channel parameters and of a correlation between a signal received at the receiver system and the predetermined digital sequence, wherein said estimated channel parameters comprise moments of order greater than 2 of the gain on the radio channel.

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2. The method as claimed in claim 1, in which said estimated channel parameters comprise moments of order 0 to k of the gain on the radio channel, where k is an integer larger than 2.

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- 3. The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the signal received is subjected to a filtering matched to the predetermined digital sequence so as to obtain said correlation in the form of a complex signal having a first component on an in-phase path and a second component on a quadrature path.
- 4. The method as claimed in claim 3, in which the evaluated detection magnitude is proportional to

$$\left(\sum_{n=0}^{k}\frac{1}{n!\left(\sqrt{N_{0}}\right)^{n}}.H_{n}\!\!\left(\frac{z_{x}}{\sqrt{N_{0}}}\right)\!.ma_{x,n}\right)\!\!\left(\sum_{n=0}^{k}\frac{1}{n!\left(\sqrt{N_{0}}\right)^{n}}.H_{n}\!\!\left(\frac{z_{y}}{\sqrt{N_{0}}}\right)\!.ma_{y,n}\right)\!,\qquad\text{where $N_{0}$}$$

denotes the estimated power of the noise on the radio channel,  $z_x$  and  $z_y$  denote said first and second components,  $m_{a_x,n}$  and  $m_{a_y,n}$  denote the moments of order n of the gain on the in-phase path and on the quadrature path respectively,  $H_n$  denotes the Hermite polynomial of order n and k is an integer larger than 2.

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- 5. The method as claimed in claim 1, in which said sender is a mobile terminal, said receiver system belongs to a radiocommunication network and in which said burst is sent so as to request access to the network.
- 6. The method as claimed in claim 1, in which said sender comprises a base station of a radiocommunication network, said receiver system forms part of a mobile terminal, and in which said burst is sent for the temporal synchronization between the sender and the receiver system.
- 7. The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the detection of the burst is utilized to select fingers of a rake receiver.
- 8. The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the burst belongs to a radio signal sequence sent 20 periodically, and in which said moments are estimated over a duration covering several periods of said radio signal sequence.
- A radio receiver system capable of detecting a 25 signal burst transmitted on the initiative of a sender on a radio channel listened to by the receiver system, the transmitted burst representing a predetermined digital sequence, the receiver system comprising means estimating channel parameters representing statistical behavior of the radio channel and means for 30 evaluating a detection magnitude on the basis of the estimated channel parameters and of a correlation between a signal received at the receiver system and predetermined digital sequence, wherein 35 estimated channel parameters comprise moments of order greater than 2 of the gain on the radio channel.
  - 10. A radio receiver system as claimed in claim 9, in which said estimated channel parameters comprise

moments of order 0 to k of the gain on the radio channel, where k is an integer larger than 2.

- 11. A radio receiver system as claimed in claim 9, further comprising means for subjecting the received signal to a filtering matched to the predetermined digital sequence so as to obtain said correlation in the form of a complex signal having a first component on an in-phase path and a second component on a quadrature path.
  - 12. A radio receiver system as claimed in claim 11, in which the evaluated detection magnitude is proportional to

$$\left(\sum_{n=0}^{k}\frac{1}{n!\left(\sqrt{N_0}\right)^n}.H_n\!\!\left(\frac{z_x}{\sqrt{N_0}}\right)\!ma_{x,n}\right)\!\!\left(\sum_{n=0}^{k}\frac{1}{n!\left(\sqrt{N_0}\right)^n}.H_n\!\!\left(\frac{z_y}{\sqrt{N_0}}\right)\!ma_{y,n}\right)\!, \qquad \text{where } N_0$$

- denotes the estimated power of the noise on the radio channel,  $z_x$  and  $z_y$  denote said first and second components,  $ma_{x,n}$  and  $ma_{y,n}$  denote the moments of order n of the gain on the in-phase path and on the quadrature path respectively,  $H_n$  denotes the Hermite polynomial of order n and k is an integer larger than 2.
  - 13. A radio receiver system as claimed in claim 9, belonging to a radiocommunication network, said sender being a mobile terminal, and said burst being sent so as to request access to the network.

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- 14. A radio receiver system as claimed in claim 9, forming part of a mobile terminal, said sender comprising a base station of a radiocommunication network, and said burst being sent for the temporal synchronization between the sender and the receiver system.
- 15. A radio receiver system as claimed in claim 9, 35 further comprising means for utilizing the detection of the burst to select fingers of a rake receiver.

16. A radio receiver system as claimed in claim 9, in which the burst belongs to a radio signal sequence sent periodically, and in which said moments are estimated over a duration covering several periods of said radio signal sequence.